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C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 004109

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STATE FOR NEA/ARP

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/15/2016

TAGS: PREL PARM EAID KLEG KU KATRINA AID

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ARTICLE 98 AND KATRINA AID

REF: A. KUWAIT 2562

1B. 05 KUWAIT 5406
1C. 05 KUWAIT 4846

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires Matt Tueller for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

(C/NF) During an October 15 meeting with PolChief, Mohammed Jassem Al-Sager, the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in Parliament, confirmed that his committee had approved the Article 98 agreement and referred it to the full Assembly for ratification (ref B). He said action now depended on the Government, which should ask the Speaker to expedite voting on the agreement. Al-Sager said the Katrina aid package had also been on the agenda since its approval by the Budget and Closing Accounts Committee in November 2005 (ref C). He seemed surprised that Parliament had not yet voted on the Katrina aid and promised to raise the issue with the Foreign Minister.

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Tueller